Since area-based exemptions create economic distortions affecting economic viability of units located in non exempted areas and result in shifting of the industries from non exempted areas to exempted areas, the requests for extending area-based exemptions to other States were not accepted.

(c) and (d) No such request has been received from the Industry. In the absence of any such request, there is no proposal to frame any action plan in this regard.

Law to Deal with Hawala Operators

4003. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be please to state:

(a) whether the militants and other underworld Mafia getting money through Hawala is on the increase;

(b) whether there is any law to deal with Hawala operators who arrange funds of unlawful organizations;

(c) what action Government are likely to take by making stringent law to deal with exclusively with Hawala operators and financiers of militant organizations due to inadequacy of present law;

(d) whether such law will also ensure that money routed through foreign countries to NGOs in the country is not used for militant activities; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Amendment of Foreign Currency Convertible Bonds and Ordinary Shares Scheme, 1993

4004. SHRI VARINDER SINGH BAJWA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be please to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Department of Economic Affairs has amended the issue of Foreign Currency Convertible Bonds and Ordinary Shares (Through Depository Receipt Mechanism) Scheme, 1993 vide